

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

SimEx

West Virginia Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Training Improves Safety at SimEx

Client Profile:

SimEx, located in St. Marys, West Virginia, manufactures vinyl profile extrusions for Simonton Windows. SimEx opened in 2000 as a subsidiary of Parkersburg-based Simonton Windows and currently employs over 120 people.

Situation:

In January 2004, SimEx officials contacted the West Virginia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WVMEP) to request that a 10-hour general industry safety and health outreach training program be conducted at the St. Mary's, West Virginia, plant. SimEx management specifically requested that the training be given to 22 employees, mainly leads and supervisors.

Solution:

WVMEP conducted a four-day, eight hours-a-day training program, focused on compliance regulations, as well as site-specific safety topics. Department of Labor 10-hour cards were prepared and presented to SimEx employees who completed the course. Certificates of completion were awarded in addition to the cards.

Results:

- * Implemented a multi-level health and safety program throughout facility.
- * Increased awareness of hazards.
- * Met requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's general industry safety standard.

Testimonial:

"The occupational safety and health 10-hour outreach training course you provided has shown positive results already. Deficits in our safety arena are identified and corrected with the help of the leads and supervisors, as well helping to create a better attitude toward safety in general throughout the facility. Your course achieved the desired objectives by expanding each participant's understanding of federal and state regulations, encompassing the fact that David and I do what we do because we care about the safety of our employees, and also because we care about the well being of our co-workers. So, let me thank you for your efforts--they are paying off for us; training dollars well-spent."

Judy Paquette, Quality and Safety Coordinator